

*Measurements.*—

	<i>C. m. fülleborni</i>			<i>C. m. bensoni</i>		
	<i>Wing</i>	<i>Exposed culmen</i>	<i>Tail</i>	<i>Wing</i>	<i>Exposed culmen</i>	<i>Tail</i>
Adult male:	53—57	18—22.5 (26 measured)	42—46mm.	55—59	19—21.5 (28 measured)	42—48mm.
Adult female:	50—52	16.5—19 (12 measured)	33—36mm.	50—53	17.5—19 (9 measured)	34—38mm.

*Distribution.*—Specimens examined from the following localities:—Nyasaland: Mlanje Mt., Vipya Mts., Masuku Range, Dedza Mt., Nyika Plateau. (*Note:* Some examples from Nika Plateau, near Nchena-chena, are intermediate between *C. m. fülleborni* and *bensoni*.) Northern Rhodesia/Nyasaland border: Mafinga Mts. and Nyika Plateau.

Portuguese East Africa: Chiperoni Mt., Njesi Plateau and Namuli Mt.

*Type specimen.*—Adult male; loc. Dedza Mt., Nyasaland, 7,000 ft. 19 July, 1951; collected by C. W. Benson. Collector's No.: N.5781. In British Museum collection. Brit. Mus. Reg. No. 1952.48.1.

*Measurements of type.*—Wing 55; exposed culmen 19; tail 43; tarsus 17 mm.

*Distribution of Cynnyris mediocris.*

*Cynnyris mediocris* is shown to be separable into four well-defined races, with the following distributions:—

*C. m. mediocris*, Kenya Colony, north to Mt. Kulal, south to northern Tanganyika, to Mt. Gerui (Hanang) and North Paré Mts. (but not South Paré and Usambara Mts.).

*C. m. usambaricus*, confined to South Paré and Usambara Mts. in N. E. Tanganyika.

*C. m. fülleborni*, from Central Tanganyika (Dabaga Highlands), south to S. W. Tanganyika (Songea, Mt. Rungwe, Poroto Mts.) and Northern Nyasaland (Mussisi, Karonga District).

*C. m. bensoni*, Nyasaland to highlands Portuguese East Africa and Northern Rhodesian border.

*Note:*—No material is available from the Livingstone Range, southern Tanganyika, and it is not known which race—if any—occurs in this area.

On the status of *Cinnyris erikssoni* Trimen :—

By MR. J. G. WILLIAMS.

Through the kindness of Mr. C. W. Benson and the Director of the South African Museum, Cape Town, I have had the opportunity of examining the three co-types (2 adult males, 1 adult female) of *Cinnyris erikssoni* Trimen, P.Z.S. 1882, p. 451: Shella, Mossamedes Prov., Angola. I have compared these specimens with an adult male

and female, *C. afer ludovicensis* Bocage, in the British Museum collection.

In plumage *C. erikssoni* is indistinguishable from *C. afer ludovicensis*, adult males possessing the very broad red breast band (21 and 24 mm. in width) characteristic of that race. (Benson, Bull, B.O.C. vol. 69, 1948, p. 19).

*Measurements.*—

	<i>Cinnyris erikssoni</i>		<i>C. afer ludovicensis</i>	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Wing ... ..	65.67	58	64 (64-67 in Amer.) 7 specs.) Mus. N.H.)	55
Exposed cuimen ...	18.17	15.5	17	15.5
Tail ... ..	51.52	46	50	43
Tarsus ... ..	19	17	19	17 mm.

*Cinnyris erikssoni* Trimen, cannot be distinguished on plumage or size from *Cinnyris afer ludovicensis* Bocage. It must therefore be placed as a synonym of *Cinnyris afer ludovicensis*.

### On the type of *Charadrius pallidus* Strickland, the name *Hiaticula Heywoodii*, and the races of *Charadrius marginatus* Vieillot.

By CAPTAIN C. H. B. GRANT and MR. C. W. MACKWORTH-PRAED.

Authors have generally placed *Charadrius pallidus* Strickland, Contr. Orn. p. 158, 1852, as a synonym of *Charadrius marginatus* Vieillot. Roberts in the Ann. Trans. Mus. 18, 3, p. 265, 1936, who examined the type is of opinion that this type is a young bird of *Charadrius venustus* Fischer & Reichenow.

In view of this difference of opinion we have examined this type, kindly loaned to us from the Cambridge Museum, and compared it with all the small plovers that occur on the Damaraland coast. We find that Roberts is right in stating that *Charadrius pallidus* Strickland, and *Charadrius venustus* Fischer & Reichenow are the same species. Our examination shows that in size and general colour, size of bill, colour and size of feet and toes, the dusky patch on the sides of the chest and the dusky under primary coverts this type agrees with the immature (not the young in first dress) of *C. venustus* and not with the immature or young of *C. marginatus*. *Charadrius pallidus* Strickland, therefore preoccupies *Charadrius rufocincta* Reichenow, O.M. p. 123, 1900: Great Fish Bay, Angola, as stated by Roberts, Bds. S. Afr. p. 99, 1940. We also find that F. Galton & Andersson (J.R.G.S. 22, p. 140, 1852) went inland from Walfish Bay and returned to that place. As this was the only place on the coast where the type could have been collected we consider that Walfish Bay can be given as the exact type locality of *C. pallidus* Strickland.

The name *Hiaticula Heywoodii* occurs as a nomen nudum in Allen & Thomson's Narrative of the Expedition to the River Niger in 1841,